

Utah Division of Indian Affairs, FY 2008 Annual Report

- **Native American Summit 2008:** The 3rd Annual Native American Summit was conducted September 24-25 at the Western Park Convention Center in Vernal, Utah. Once again approximately 230 tribal and state officials participated in the conference. Governor Huntsman addressed to group and met with tribal officials during the annual conference sponsored by Governor Huntsman and Lt. Governor Gary Herbert. Lt. Governor Gary Herbert presided over the two day conference which focused on education, health, and economic development. This year the Native American Indian Legislative Liaison Committee scheduled an informational meeting to dialogue with tribal leaders. The Division worked closely with the economic development committee for the NA Summit in developing goals for the Summit. One of the highlights of the Summit was the signing of a Tribal Consultation agreement between the State of Utah Department of Human Services and Utah's American Indian tribes.
- **Repatriation of Indian Remains and Administrative Rule 230:**
 - The Native American Remains Review Committee met a total of 3 times in FY 2008.
 - UDIA also met with the Department of Community and Culture (DCC) Administration in a series of meetings (9 meetings total) with Division of History - Antiquities Section throughout the year to discuss policy decisions regarding Administrative Rule 230, State and Federal NAGPRA requirements.
 - Administrative Rule 230 published in May 2008 was a major accomplishment considering that the Division of Indian Affairs has been trying to not only streamline but effectuate the decision making processes of the State repatriation law for over a decade. The Rule now allows the State to inter and/or reburial ancient American Indian human remains found on non-federal land, if they are unclaimed. The new and improved Rule 230 became official July 2008.
 - On May 30, 2008, UDIA, working in cooperation with the Division of History, placed 25 human remains in the State Burial Vault. These are unclaimed remains, mostly older remains that have been stored in the basement of the Division of History Rio Grande Building. A traditional Indian blessing ceremony took place prior to placement of the remains in the vault. Additional repatriations are being planned throughout the coming year.
 - This year the Division of Indian Affairs signed a programmatic Agreement with the Division of State History-Antiquities section and the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office regarding the implementation of the recovery of human remains from private and non-federal lands within the state of Utah. The programmatic agreement details the recovery and analysis of human remains and stipulates the Rules and procedures that satisfy agency responsibilities.
- **American Indian Digitization Project:** This past year, the Division applied for and was awarded a grant for \$100,000 under the Department of Community and Culture Digitization program authorized by the Utah State Legislature. The Division project consisted of a partnership with the University of Utah American West Center and Marriott Library – Special Collections Section (which contributed \$20,000 to the project), to digitize such historical documents as our recent history book, oral histories such as the Duke Collection, and numerous other research and historical documents.

- **We Shall Remain:** UDIA worked with University of Utah KUED -TV to secure an appropriation from the Utah State Legislature (\$350,000) to develop five-30 minute film documentaries on all five of Utah's American Indian nations. A film trailer advertising the "We Shall Remain" production was produced in fall 2007 and aired on Channel 7, KUED. Ken Verdoia (Producer) and the production crew at KUED did an outstanding job in designing and producing the trailer for the Utah series. With the appropriation in place, the Division has:
 - Entered into agreements with KUED to complete the DVD film series. KUED camera crews have been filming on the various reservation sites.
 - The Division also entered into agreements to begin the development of the teacher curriculum guide which will include how to use the DVDs and how best use the Indian history text books that have already been published and hopefully digitized under the UDIA sponsored American Indian Digitization Project.
- **Utah Tribal Emergency Response Committee (UTERC):** Under the able leadership of Misty Bruns, this group has been meeting regularly throughout the year. There have been at least 6 meetings held throughout the year. A significant amount of coordination has taken place between the State Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security and various tribal emergency response personnel.
- **Indian Education:** It has been a pleasure working with the new USOE education specialist, Dr. Harold Foster. Dr. Foster has picked up quickly where the former education specialist left off. Our office has been planning and collaborating regarding a project referred to as, "We Shall Remain – Teacher Curriculum Guide Project." Under this project, UDIA and USOE will partner with the University of Utah American West Center to develop a teacher's guide that will correspond with the five history documentaries being prepared by KUED-TV as mentioned above. UDIA will utilize the expertise of both agencies in carrying out this project as approved by the Utah State Legislature.
- **Intergovernmental Relations:** UDIA continues to promote positive relationships and dialogue between Utah Tribal leaders, the Governor's Office, and the State of Utah, through annual meetings with the Utah Legislature.
 - This year's **Indian Caucus Day**, January 20, 2008, was again very successful. First came a breakfast meeting followed by introductions in both chambers of the Legislature. We had close to 50 legislators participating in our day long activities. School children from the Montezuma Elementary School braved the stormy southern Utah roads to provide dancing and singing entertainment for the Legislators. They stole the show. The meeting with the Governor later that afternoon proved to be rewarding and beneficial to all.
 - UDIA division director reported to **Utah Tribal leaders** on five (5) occasions this past year.
 - The UDIA director continues to provide over **100 informational presentations** to schools, colleges, social clubs, and various civic organizations, presentations which serve to promote understanding and positive relations among all citizens of the State of Utah. The division continues to utilize the PowerPoints that were previously developed in three general areas: Tribal Government, Education, and Business.
- **Partnerships:**
 - American West Center and Marriott Library – Special Collections, to conduct a

- digitization project.
 - KUED -TV regarding “We Shall Remain” film documentary project.
 - American Express and the NA Summit economic development committee, in developing goals for the Summit and sponsoring Native Nation Building Institute training for tribal leaders.
 - American Express and a national Indian organization, OWEESTA, to conduct feasibility study regarding the need for a Community Development Finance Institute – See Indian housing below.
 - Utah State Office of Education – Indian Education and Nebo School District, as a proud co-sponsor of this year’s American Indian Youth Conference – April 12, 2008 at Spanish Fork High School. Approximately 600 Indian students were honored at this conference. Billy Mills, 1964 Gold Metal Winner, was the key note speaker. Mr. Mills gave a moving speech about his trials and the struggles he endured throughout his life.
- **Indian Housing:** In FY2008, the UAIHB met a total of 2 times. UAIHB visited with four (2) tribal housing authorities and their staff, introduced them to agency staff that would help each individual tribal housing project management, and facilitated discussions regarding future projects. Each meeting brought together tribes with such agencies as HUD, USDA, Utah Homeless Coordinating board, Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund, and Labor, Fair Housing, and Anti-discrimination commission, among others. We also received funding to begin an in-depth housing study that will produce a vehicle whereby the housing council can meet the housing needs of Utah’s tribes.
- **Indigenous Day:** This annual event continues to grow in popularity. This year’s event was the best to date. The 7th Annual Indigenous Day Dinner and Awards Ceremony was held November 19, 2007 on the 23rd Floor of the Wells Fargo Building. There were approximately 220 attendees at this year’s conference. UDIA honored 15 outstanding people and organizations that made significant contributions to Utah’s American Indian people at this year’s event.
- **Legislative Initiatives:** The following bills were approved during the 2008 General Session:
 - SB235 Human Remains Related Amendments by Senator Kevin VanTassell
 - SB204 Clarification of 2007 legislation by Darrin Peterson
 - Appropriation for KUED sponsored “We Shall Return” documentaries on five Utah tribes and accompanying curriculum by Senator Ross Romero